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**United States Patent** [19]**Peterson**[11] **Patent Number:** 5,144,281[45] **Date of Patent:** Sep. 1, 1992[54] **HOOD ORNAMENT THEFT ALARM**

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[58] Field of Search ..... 340/426, 429, 548, 568, 340/668, 686, 687; 307/10.2; 200/61.93, 538, 543, 331, 332

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A theft alarm for an automotive hood ornament which utilizes simple components and can be installed without removing any factory installed parts. The switch is contained in a plastic and aluminum housing which is mounted to the automobile under the hood. A lever extends out from the housing and contains a slot for attaching a ball chain. The ball chain is connected at one end to the lever and at the other end to the retaining spring of the hood ornament. The switch is connected to the automobile's battery and horn. When a thief attempts to pull the hood ornament off the automobile the retaining spring compresses and pulls up on the ball chain and lever. The switch closes and sounds the automobile's horn. Every attempt to remove the hood ornament is matched by the sound of the automobile's horn.

**11 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**